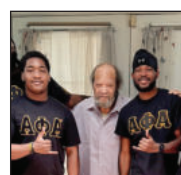


ERHS grad in Spider-Man, p.7



Large book donation, p.7

## Friends and Colleagues Remember Former Greenbelt Mayor's Legacy

by Charlotte Ormond

*This is the third in a series of articles remembering former Greenbelt Mayor Gil Weidenfeld.*

Following his death on July 4, 2026, at age 93, Gil Weidenfeld's family, friends and former colleagues have reflected on his life and the undeniable legacy he left behind in the city of Greenbelt. Weidenfeld was one of Greenbelt's longest-serving mayors, spending 22 years on the city council, including 14 years as mayor.

Tom Renehan, a politically engaged resident who worked in Weidenfeld's proximity as a campaign adviser to a close council ally of Weidenfeld, remembers the former mayor as a major political leader in Greenbelt's history



Gil Weidenfeld, right, with Jared Littmann, current mayor of Annapolis

whose legacy "can't be underestimated."

"He was an incredibly smart guy, very talented, very articulate ... he wasn't just a politician. He was really good at sorting out public issues. ... He became kind of the obvious leader," Renehan said.

Throughout his time in government from 1971 to 1993, Weidenfeld helped lead Greenbelt through a period of significant growth and development. Renehan pointed to several monumental changes that occurred during Weidenfeld's tenure, including the 1989 transformation of the former Greenbelt Center School into the Greenbelt Community Center and the construction of the new Greenbelt Elementary School in the North End.

Weidenfeld was also mayor when the Sunrise high-rise property in Greenbelt East was proposed in 1990. The project received backlash from residents

See MAYOR, page 8

## Creative Kids Get the Scoop On Today's News Review

by Becky Rackis, Erica Johns and Cathie Meetre

On Thursday, July 30, the News Review hosted the Creative Kids Camp's (CKC) six doughty Iliad teams. From young to old, the morning brought the Myrmidons (ants who were magically transformed by Zeus into devoted and obedient servants), then the Argonauts (legendary Greek heroes who sailed in the Argo to find the Golden Fleece) and the Griffins (part lion, part eagle).

After lunch the Centaurs (part horse and part man) galloped in, followed by the Titans (giant immortals), culminating most fittingly in the Olympians - those who have reached the pinnacle of camp life.

Some of the older campers are also in the newspaper's cadre of youthful carriers, distributing the newspaper around the city. Their contemporaries were rather impressed by this, wanting to know how old they'd have to be and what it pays.

Newspaper volunteers Becky Rackis, Erica Johns and Cathie Meetre had prepared several experiences for the campers in various formats, each adapted to the range of ages. Fortunately, the activities seemed on target, though perhaps with a wider range of outcomes than anticipated.

See KIDS, page 12



GNR volunteer Erica Johns works with young campers on writing stories during their visit to the News Review.

## Economic Development Forum Promotes B2B, Criticizes DPIE

by Cathie Meetre

The city held its Economic Development Expo on June 24 at the Hilton Garden Inn on Walker Drive. Mayor Emmett Jordan welcomed the city's new Economic Development Manager Jessica Mailander, four days into her tenure with the city, and guest speaker State Senator Alonzo Washington, a day after his primary victory for the Prince George's County seat.

### Development Hub

The vision promoted at the meeting was of Greenbelt as an economic development hub, well positioned for growth with an enviable location at the intersection of major highways and public transportation. Mailander spoke of collaboration and opportuni-

### What Goes On

**Monday, August 10**  
7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting  
**Wednesday, August 12**  
7:30 p.m., City Council Work-session: Administrative Session/Legislative Priorities

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at [greenbeltdmd.gov](http://greenbeltdmd.gov) for more information.



Greenbelt resident Bernard Kelly collected the political flyers sent to his household, discarding duplicates.

*This is the first of a two-part series of articles looking at the absence of specimen ballots in Greenbelt in time for the primary election on June 23. This article considers the importance of the specimen ballots and the impact of their absence. A second article investigates what went wrong with the delayed mailing.*

When the News Review asked readers to share when they received their specimen ballot and voter guide in the recent primary election, the response was overwhelming - a day or two after the June 23 election, said the vast majority.

### What the Law Required

Maryland Election Law 8-102 states that specimen ballots must be mailed at least one week before the first day of an early voting period. Early voting in Prince George's County began June 11, so the deadline for mailing specimen ballots should have been June 4 at the latest. Instead, according to a June 12 announcement from the Prince George's County Board of Elections, processing and shipping began in waves on June 10, just one day before early voting began and six days after the legal deadline.

See BALLOT, page 6



Assistant City Manager Tim George, left, and Senator Alonzo Washington chat with the city's Economic Development Manager Jessica Mailander.

ties, noting that though this was only her fourth day on the job, she was already aware of the possibilities. City Manager Josué Salmerón emphasized how businesses are moving to Greenbelt and, looking around the room, observed how the Hilton Garden Inn was among several local hotels investing in refurbishments.

### Washington Speaks

Guest speaker Washington picked up the theme. He emphasized that this is a time of major investments, with federal spending going to contractors. He took up the refrain that the city's team is here to help and connect local

businesses to opportunities, and assist them with regulatory barriers. To some applause he noted that he was "not afraid of asking DPIE [Department of Permits, Inspections and Enforcement]!" (See box on page 11).

### Local Small Business

Washington went on to say that Mailander too was a proponent of place-based economic development related directly to the skills and interests of residents - and passionate about small businesses and entrepreneurship. He spoke of building public value and

See FORUM, page 11

# Letters to the Editor

## The New Deal Café Is Worth It!

As a former board president of the Café cooperative, I have seen many of its travails. It once had \$80K in the bank and no debt with Chef Karim and Maria as the restaurant management, which our board of directors brought on.

I can say that the management of Kenny’s team brought with it an amazing, best-ever ambience and aesthetic, best American food menu and quality and best service. I loved what he and his staff did with the place and patronized it often.

However, the bills were not being paid, jeopardizing the liquor and entertainment licenses so the cooperative had to step in to pay them to keep things going. Many things were right with the past management. However, paying the bills comes first and if that was not happening due to whatever reason, I can see why both parties decided not to renew.

I have full confidence in the current board president and new board members after a meeting they hosted of 88 interested parties this weekend. I believe this president is the best and most capable of any the Café has ever had and look forward to supporting OUR cooperative Café for another 30 years and beyond.

Peter I. May

## Reparations Response

I am responding to a letter to the editor that appeared in the July 23 issue titled Reparations Illegal? The Reparations Commission welcomes input from Greenbelt residents and wants to assure the community that the repair measures that are being considered are appropriate, legally sound and will benefit the com-

munity. Commission members, like other Greenbelters, care about the betterment of our community and about correcting sustained injustices. The Commission exists because the Greenbelt residents directed council to investigate reparations through a referendum in November 2021.

Our research has uncovered systemic historical injustices that continue to impact African American and Indigenous residents today. Based on that evidence, the Commission is designing recommendations that can withstand legal scrutiny and that will be submitted to the council for further deliberation and implementation. Recommendations are likely to include acknowledgement, policy changes to improve equity across all populations in Greenbelt, memorialization and a complete and accurate historical record. We believe these recommendations will contribute to healing our community and correcting past injustices.

We invite Greenbelt residents to review the information about how underserved members of our community continue to be disproportionately harmed by systemic injustices. Like the author, we believe that there are appropriate ways for the city to remedy past discrimination by redirecting resources to its most vulnerable citizens. We welcome thoughts, input and evaluation by Greenbelt residents.

Everyone is invited to attend our public meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers. Email [myoung@greenbelt.gov](mailto:myoung@greenbelt.gov) to get more information or visit the Commission’s website at [greenbeltreparations.info](http://greenbeltreparations.info) to learn more about our work.

Denise Nadasen, Vice Chair,  
Greenbelt Reparations Commission

## Correction

In our July 8, 2026, article on the transfer of NASA Goddard’s Area 400 to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, we incorrectly reported on its annexation status. Area 400 sits to the east of the area the city annexed earlier this year and is still within the unincorporated county area.

## Story & Photo Submissions

We welcome your stories and photographs about all things Greenbelt. While publication is not guaranteed, your submissions help us cover more of what goes on. Stories will be copyedited. Remember to include captions and identify people in photographs. See the information box on this page for publication deadlines and how to submit materials.



Greenbelt Cinema  
129 Centerway  
301-329-2034  
[www.greenbeltcinema.org](http://www.greenbeltcinema.org)

Members always \$7.00!  
Member kids are always FREE!  
After 5 PM: adults \$10, kids \$7,  
senior/student/military \$9

Before 5 PM:  
general admission \$8, kids \$6

OC = Open Captions  
CC = Closed Captions  
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:  
AUGUST 7th - 13th

**Spider-Man: Brand New Day**  
(PG-13) (CC) (DVS) (2026)  
(145 mins)

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Fri. 5:00 PM, 8:15 PM  
Sat. 5:00 PM, 8:15 PM  
Sun. 7:10 PM

Mon. 3:45 PM (OC), 7:20 PM  
Tues. 6:15 PM  
Thurs. 6:15 PM

**Screen 2 - The Screening Room**  
Sun. 4:20 PM  
Wed. 6:45 PM

**Cookie Queens (G) (CC)**  
(DVS) (2026) (91 mins)

**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Sun. 4:35 PM (OC)  
Wed. 6:15 PM

**Screen 2 - The Screening Room**  
Fri. 5:20 PM, 8:35 PM  
Sat. 5:20 PM, 8:35 PM  
Sun. 7:35 PM  
Mon. 4:20 PM, 7:50 PM  
Tues. 6:45 PM  
Thurs. 6:30 PM

**Soul (PG) (CC) (DVS) (2020)**  
(101 mins)

School’s Out! - FREE!  
**Screen 1 - Main Auditorium**  
Thurs. 1:00 PM



## Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer’s name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 5 p.m. Co-op dropbox: Classified ads with payment only.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.  
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center’s east door near the Municipal Building.



## On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

## Spider-Man: Brand New Day

It’s a brand-new day for Peter Parker. Fighting crime full time as Spider-Man in a world that doesn’t remember him – and the pressure of seeing his old friends move on without him – sparks a change in Peter he may not have the power to control. But that transformation might also be the only thing that can stop a shocking new threat to the city and those he loves – a powerful villain no one can even see. The world may have forgotten Peter Parker, but he hasn’t forgotten it.

## Cookie Queens

A celebration of girlhood and the complexities that come with it, Cookie Queens is a coming-of-age story about the joys, pressures and tensions woven into one of America’s most cherished rituals: Girl Scout Cookie season. Said critic Mark Jackson of Epoch Times, “While Cookie Queens is a complex look at how America puts pressure on kids to be successful, it’s also unquestionably a love letter to Girl Scouts and the magic of girlhood. It’s one of the most childhood nostalgia-inducing films I’ve seen in a while.”

## Soul

In this animated feature, Joe is a middle-school band teacher whose life hasn’t quite gone the way he expected. His true passion is jazz – and he’s good. But when he travels to another realm to help someone find their passion, he soon discovers what it means to have soul. Main characters are voiced by Jamie Foxx, Tina Fey, Phylicia Rashad, Ahmir “Questlove” Thompson and Angela Bassett.

# Community Events

## Make Sock Monkeys At Artful Afternoon



Greenbelt Arts employee Lucy Jorgensen, left, and attendee Janeth Amaya show off their in-progress sock monkeys at the workshop on Sunday, August 2. There will be another sock monkey workshop on August 9 at Springhill Lake Rec Center.

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts Program invites guests to a free Artful Afternoon workshop where participants can make their own unique sock monkey. All materials are provided, but guests are welcome to bring their own socks, buttons and other decorations. The activity will be offered on Sunday, August 9 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

This activity is recommended for adults and family members working collaboratively. Guests who have the ability to use scissors and to sew with a blunt craft needle will be doing most of the work. Projects may not be completed during the workshop time listed above, but guests will be well on their way and equipped to finish at home as needed. Seating is limited and advance sign-up is recommended. Sign up at [sugeni.us/eylm](https://sugeni.us/eylm). Walk-ins will be welcome as space and supplies permit.

For more information about Greenbelt arts programs, visit [greenbeltmd.gov/arts](https://greenbeltmd.gov/arts). Programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

## Sunday Hikes At Greenbelt Park

On Sundays at 1 p.m., Hike with a Ranger at Greenbelt Park. The ranger leads a nature hike focused on the flora and fauna of Greenbelt Park in a beautiful and picturesque setting. Meet at the Dogwood Trail parking lot. Friday campfire programs will resume in September.

Greenbelt Park is open every day from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. The Ranger Station is open from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. The campground is open 24 hours a day, year-round, for registered campers and their guests.

Visit [nps.gov/gree/planyourvisit/calendar.htm](https://nps.gov/gree/planyourvisit/calendar.htm) for more information.

## Sign up to Participate In Labor Day Festival

Registration is open for participation in many events during Labor Day weekend.

Information Day, on Saturday, September 5 in Roosevelt Center, gives local organizations a chance to share information with the public. Only a few slots are left!

The Rising Stars Showcase, on Sunday afternoon, September 6 on the main stage, allows local performers to show off their talents and win cash prizes. The deadline to sign up is Sunday, August 30.

The annual Parade on Labor Day Monday goes along Crescent Road from Buddy Attick Park to the reviewing stand across from Roosevelt Center. Local organizations are encouraged to participate and there are trophies and cash prizes for the most original and entertaining entries. Register by Friday, August 28.

Finally, the Art and Photo Shows are open Saturday, Sunday and Monday afternoons in the Community Center gym. Participants can earn ribbons and prizes. Artwork and photos must be dropped off on Wednesday, September 2 from 5 to 8 p.m.

Find out more and register at [greenbeltlaborday.com](https://greenbeltlaborday.com).

## Used Books Sought For PTA's Book Sale

It's that time of year again. Declutter your space and support a local elementary school. For those whose bookshelves are overflowing, the Greenbelt Elementary School PTA will be collecting used books to sell at the annual Labor Day Festival used book sale.

The PTA will accept book and media donations at St. Hugh's parish hall on Saturdays, August 15 and 29 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. All books will be accepted (except manuals, encyclopedias and dictionaries), as well as CDs, DVDs, records, puzzles and games. For more information, email [booksalesgespta@gmail.com](mailto:booksalesgespta@gmail.com) or visit [sites.google.com/view/gespta/events/labor-day-book-sale](https://sites.google.com/view/gespta/events/labor-day-book-sale).

## Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center. The August schedule is:

- August 12, Speaker: Karen McFarland – Astrology Primer.
- August 19, Birthday potluck luncheon, bring a dish to share.
- August 26, Bingo.

## Camp Shows On August 7

Greenbelt Recreation's Creative Kids Camp (CKC) and Circus Camp invite community members to attend free, family-friendly performances on Friday, August 7.

At 10 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. CKC presents Hercules and Hippolyta, an original musical written and directed by Chris Cherry, Greenbelt Recreation's performing arts coordinator. Join history's first super-heroes on a musical adventure. Working together, they rescue the noble titan Prometheus, defeat the bullying Big Bad Boar and capture the Golden Hind, a magical deer who can grant any wish. How Hercules and Hippolyta use their wish is the final test of whether they are heroes.

At 1 p.m. Circus Camp performs Under the Big Top. Under the direction of mentors Greg May and Sam Collins, circus campers will present a showcase of their skills, including juggling, stilt walking, unicycling, tightrope walking, tumbling, clown gags and more.

All performances will take place in the Community Center gym. For free tickets, visit the Community Center business office or call 301-397-2208. For more information about Greenbelt Recreation arts programs, visit [greenbeltmd.gov/arts](https://greenbeltmd.gov/arts). Programs are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

## Chess Club In August

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesdays, August 11, 18 and 25 at the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:50 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to the mailing list, visit [tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m](https://tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m) and complete the brief form. Email questions to [greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com](mailto:greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com).

More Community Events are located throughout the paper.

## Hear from Greenbelt Outstanding Citizens

Join the Greenbelt Rotary Club in honoring past Greenbelt Outstanding Citizens during the leadup to the announcement of the next awardee at the Labor Day Festival next month. As one of the long-standing sponsors of the Outstanding Citizen Award, Greenbelt Rotary will hold an informal conversation with past honorees as a celebration of community and the varying ways people contribute to Greenbelt. The Club will also present certificates to induct the Outstanding Citizens as honorary Rotarians. The event will be on Thursday, August 13 at the Greenbelt Community Center, room 114, with refreshments and conversation at 6:30 p.m., and the talk and certificate presentation at 7 p.m.

## A Month in the Life Of Greenbelt Photos

During the month of September 2026, the Greenbelt Photography Club invites the Greenbelt community to submit electronic photographs depicting A Month in the Life of Greenbelt. Photos can be taken with any type of camera (including cell phones), but must be taken in Greenbelt and during the month of September. Photos cannot be generated or modified using AI.

This is not a competition and no prizes will be awarded, but the Club will select a number of them for a published book. The Club also plans to have an exhibition in the New Deal Café, as well as a website with all photos. The number of submissions per individual will be limited.

The kick-off event will be during Information Day at the Labor Day Festival, on Saturday, September 5. The Greenbelt Photography Club will have a table all day so visitors can meet members and learn more about the club and this exciting A Month in the Life of Greenbelt, when more details will be available.

## At the Library

Greenbelt Library's regular hours are Mondays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m.

### Legos: Bricks and Beyond (Auditorium)

Monday, August 10, 4 p.m., ages 5 to 12. Build, create and explore with Legos. With plenty of pieces and endless possibilities, kids can let their imaginations take the lead in this freestyle building session. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/16523076](https://pgcmls.info/event/16523076).

**Storytimes**  
Tuesday, August 11, 12:15 p.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/16645487](https://pgcmls.info/event/16645487).

Wednesday, August 12, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/16486795](https://pgcmls.info/event/16486795).

Thursday, August 13, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2, Register at [pgcmls.info/event/16486831](https://pgcmls.info/event/16486831).

### SPG Special Events Ancient Oceans: Aquarium Ancestors (Auditorium)

Wednesday, August 12, 3 p.m., ages 5 to 12. Join in to explore the prehistory of four animals that live at the National Aquarium. Participants will have the opportunity to map out their evolutionary journey through time to see and touch artifacts from these animals' ancestors. Space is limited and there may not be enough room to accommodate camps or large groups. Call ahead to check availability before visiting. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/16245239](https://pgcmls.info/event/16245239).

### Craft and Create: Sketching (Auditorium)

Thursday, August 13, 2 p.m., ages 13+ (teen/adult). Whether a job, hobby or a passing exercise, sketching is a great gateway into art as a form of creative expression. Come with a sketchbook or use Library materials. People of all ages and skill levels are welcome, no matter the doodle or scribble. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/16815753](https://pgcmls.info/event/16815753).

### Featured Programming on Greenbelt Access Television

August 2026

Verizon FiOS Channel 19 • Comcast Channel 77 • Streaming Online at [GreenbeltAccessTV.org](https://GreenbeltAccessTV.org)

**GATE's Camcorder Essentials Course (2 Hours): Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 11am-1pm and 2pm-4pm at GATE's Studio (15 Crescent, Suite 204).**  
The class is now free and open to the public, but seats are limited.  
Email [greenbeltaccess@gmail.com](mailto:greenbeltaccess@gmail.com) to reserve your spot!

**Featured Productions**

New, daily episodes of Democracy Now

Premiere broadcast of OVER TWENTY new Musical Performances

All-new creations from Mister Geo's Homeschool Digital Animation Class

All this and more on our cable channels, online streaming, and YouTube channel. As always, thank you for tuning in!

## This Week at the New Deal Café

Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt! Try Our New Menu & Drinks!

BECOME A MEMBER!\*

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD  
Monday, 9am-9pm; Tuesday—Thursday, 9am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday, 9am – 12midnight; Sunday, 9am – 9pm

REMEMBER TO TIP OUR PERFORMERS - IT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY'RE PAID!  
\*\*\* RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642 \*\*\*

| TH 8/06                                                                                                    | FRI 8/07                                                                                             | SAT 8/08                                                                                                                                                | SUN 8/09                                                                                                 |                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Wolf's Blues Show & Sit-In Jam<br>6:30 - 10pm<br>Big, bodacious, boogie blues jam hosted by Wolf Crescenze | D'Vibe & Conga<br>8 - 11pm<br>Blues, funk, rock group from Bowie playing classic rock, R&B and more! | FUNDRAISER: COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE w/ KATY GAUGHAN, 3:30 - 5pm<br>The Paulverizers<br>8 - 11pm<br>Hard drivin' blues with come of the finest in the DMV! | Charlie Owen & Pocket Change<br>6 - 8pm<br>An entertaining evening of music featuring sweet soul and R&B |                                                         |
| MON 8/10                                                                                                   | TUES 8/11                                                                                            | WED 8/12                                                                                                                                                | TH 8/13                                                                                                  | New Deal Cafe                                           |
| NO EVENTS                                                                                                  | NDC Open Mic w/ Tom Gleason<br>6 - 9:30pm<br>Sign ups begin at 6pm; Open Mic starts at 6:30p         | Katy and The Gongs<br>7 - 9pm<br>Plays the music that makes you feel good!                                                                              | Blue Spruce<br>6:30 - 10pm<br>Traditional bluegrass that's modern in sound and original by design        | RENEW OR BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NDC!<br>See link below* |

\*Join NDC! Go to [NewDealCafe\(dot\)com](https://NewDealCafe(dot)com), click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.

# Obituaries

## Edward L. Cook



Edward Cook and his wife Jean pose with the proclamation that declared her Greenbelt's 2009 Outstanding Citizen.

Edward L. Cook died on July 30, 2026. He was a longtime resident of Greenbelt whose life was marked by military service, business leadership, community involvement and dedication to his family and church.

Ed served for more than 25 years in the United States Coast Guard and Naval Reserve, building a career based on commitment, responsibility and public service. He was also the owner of Barkley and Cook, a printing and marketing company that served businesses, organizations and community groups throughout the Washington, D.C., region.

In Greenbelt, Ed was known for his extensive volunteer work and civic engagement. For more than 15 years, he served as Pack Master of Cub Scout Pack 202, helping organize activities, events and leadership opportunities for local youth. Many scouts and their families benefited from his guidance and commitment to the program.

Ed also played a significant role in the planning and operation of Greenbelt's annual Labor Day Festival. As one of the Festival's principal organizers, he oversaw games and events for more than 20 years, helping coordinate activities that became a longstanding tradition for residents and visitors alike.

His interest in public affairs led him to participate actively in local political campaigns. He served as campaign manager for Mayor J Davis during multiple election campaigns, contributing his organizational skills and community knowledge to local government and civic life.

For 25 years, Ed and his family were members of Saint Hugh's Catholic Church in Greenbelt. During that time, he served as one of the parish's senior members and remained actively involved in church activities and community service. His faith was an important part of his life and informed his commitment to family and community.

Throughout his life, Ed devoted his time and energy to causes that benefited others. Whether through military service, business leadership, scouting, church involvement, civic engagement or volunteer work, he consistently contributed to the organizations and people around him.

He is survived by his wife, Jean Cook, who was recognized as Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizen in 2009 for her service to the community. He is also survived by his three sons, Edward Lewis Cook, Frank Cook and Michael Cook and eight granddaughters.

Edward L. Cook will be

remembered for his dedication to his family, his service to his country, his leadership within the Greenbelt community and his longstanding commitment to Saint Hugh's Catholic Church. His contributions touched many lives and left a lasting impact on the community he called home.

He will be missed by his family, friends, fellow parishioners, former scouts and the many residents of Greenbelt who knew him through his years of service and involvement.

## Gregory "Greg" Vincent Gigliotti



Greg Gigliotti

Gregory "Greg" Vincent Gigliotti, 72, died peacefully on July 24, 2026, after a courageous battle with lung cancer.

Born on December 18, 1953, Greg lived a life defined by service, integrity and unwavering devotion to his family, friends and community. He believed deeply in faith, hard work and helping others. Whether serving his country, protecting his community, mentoring others or caring for his loved ones, Greg lived with purpose and left a lasting impact on everyone fortunate enough to know him.

After graduating from Parkdale Senior High School in 1972, Greg attended Prince George's Community College until receiving his draft notice later that summer.

He answered the call to serve by joining the 223rd Military Intelligence Company in Gaithersburg, and soon entered active military service. Over an extraordinary 42-year military career spanning the U.S. Army, Army Reserve and Army National Guard, Greg proudly served his country with distinction. His service included four overseas deployments to Germany, Bosnia and twice to Kosovo. He concluded his military career as the Senior Warrant Officer Advisor for the Military Intelligence Branch of the Army National Guard, stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. In recognition of his exceptional leadership and dedication, he attained the rank of Chief Warrant Officer Five (CW5), the highest warrant officer rank in the Army, before retiring on June 2, 2015.

While faithfully serving in the military, Greg simultaneously built a remarkable career with the Prince George's County Fire Department. Beginning in 1980, he dedicated 28 years to protecting the citizens of Prince George's County, retiring in 2008 as a Fire Captain. Throughout his career, he served in numerous assignments, including the Office of Fire Prevention and Investigation, where his knowledge, professionalism and commitment to public safety earned him the respect of his colleagues and community alike.

His military career and fire service never interfered with his commitment to serving others. He remained deeply involved in his community and was honored to serve as Post Commander of Greenbelt American Legion Post 136 and President of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department where he fostered a spirit of service and camaraderie.

Above all else, Greg treasured his family. He found his greatest happiness in spending time with those he loved. He was a gifted craftsman who always seemed to have another project underway

— building, repairing, restoring or improving something with his own two hands. More recently, he found peace tending his garden, where he enjoyed watching the fruits of his labor grow. Greg also possessed a remarkable artistic talent and a creative spirit. He had a deep passion for photography, drawing and painting, finding joy in capturing both the beauty of the world around him and the people he loved most. One of his final and most treasured works was a portrait of his beloved late wife, Kathy.

Those who knew Greg will remember his willingness to help anyone in need, his meticulous attention to detail and his unmistakable way of doing things. If you worked alongside him, you likely received a thorough set of instructions before getting started. He appreciated things being neat and orderly and firmly believed in the philosophy, "Work hard, play hard."

Greg's greatest legacy is the example he set through a lifetime



Our condolences to the family, friends, fellow parishioners and former scouts of Edward L. Cook, who died on July 30. Coast Guard and Navy Reserve veteran, Cub Scout Pack leader and Labor Day Festival organizer, Ed was committed to serving his country, his community, his parish and his family.

Congratulations to Kira Moore, the 2026 recipient of the Boxwood Village Scholarship. She is off to the University of Maryland with high hopes of being a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) nurse.

And kudos to ERHS grad Trammell Tillman for his entrance into the Marvel Cinematic Universe in Spider-Man: Brand New Day.

Send details of your news to [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com).



See OBITUARIES, page 8

**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT**  
**Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Community Center Room 114**  
**15 Crescent Rd**  
[cathcomgreenbelt.org](http://cathcomgreenbelt.org)  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community**  
**OR - Join us on ZOOM!**  
For ZOOM link:  
[CCG1985+owner@groups.io](https://ccg1985+owner@groups.io)

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704  
301-937-4292 [www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org](http://www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org)  
**Welcomes you each Sunday for**  
**Worship & Sunday School**  
**at 10:00 AM**

**Vision for America**  
**Courage to Act**  
A Common Endeavor  
**Greenbelt Bahá'í Community**  
[www.greenbeltbahais.org](http://www.greenbeltbahais.org)

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**Mishkan Torah Congregation**  
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Yael Fischman  
  
*A welcoming, inclusive, and friendly synagogue offers something for everyone: young, old, single, married, and both Jewish and interfaith families.*  
  
**Services at 8:00pm Friday and 9:45am Saturday in person and on Zoom**  
  
For more information, visit [MishkanTorah.org](http://MishkanTorah.org) or call 301-474-4223  
A Dual-Affiliated Reconstructionist and Conservative congregation  
**10 Ridge Rd, Greenbelt, MD 20770**





# City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

## MEETINGS FOR AUGUST 10 - 14

Monday, August 10, Following the Regular Meeting, **SPECIAL MEETING/CLOSED SESSION - PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS - Council Chambers**

Wednesday, August 12 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - ADMINISTRATIVE SESSION/LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES - Council Chambers**

Wednesday, August 12, Following the Work Session, **SPECIAL MEETING/CLOSED SESSION – PERSONNEL MATTERS – CM EVALUATION - Council Chambers**

Thursday, August 13 at 7 pm, **COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD - Council Chambers, On the Agenda: TBD**

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltmd.gov). This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar).

## GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING

Monday, August 10 at 7:30 pm

### ORGANIZATION

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- Reading of the Greenbelt Community Pledge
- Petitions and Requests
- Consent Agenda
  - \* Minutes of Council Meetings
  - \* Committee Reports
    - \* Board of Elections Report #2026-04 (Draft Ranked-Choice Voting Legislation)
  - \* Appointment to Advisory Board/Committee
  - \* Board Membership Update
  - \* Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committee
  - \* Authorization for City Manager to Approve Contracting with Steven Winter Associates
- Approval of Agenda and Additions

### COMMUNICATIONS

- Presentations
- National Civility Month
- Minutes
- Statement of Record — Closed Session, July 8, 2026
- Statement of Record - Closed Session, July 15, 2026
- Administrative Reports

### LEGISLATION

- A Resolution to Repeal Resolution 2026 and to Establish Admission Fees and Pass Rates for the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center, September 8, 2026
- 1st Reading, Suspension of the Rules
- 2nd Reading, Adoption

### OTHER BUSINESS

- Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract for the Greenbelt Skate Park Mural Project
- Discussion: City Council Sub-committee Working Group(s)
- Policy Discussion: Landscaping and Playground Maintenance Agreements with HOAs and Private Property Owners
- Discussion: Proposal for a Tenant Advisory Board
- Discussion of Proposed Prince George's County Council Legislation Regulating Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers
- Greenbelt Armory Development Options Discussion
- Council Reports
- Council Activities
- Meetings
  - \* Closed Session

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltmd.gov).

This agenda is subject to change. For the most up-to-date agenda, visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV) or call (301) 474-8000.

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) and (7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Monday, August 10, 2026, immediately following the Regular Meeting, in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building and virtually via Zoom: 1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; and 2) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to address personnel matters over which this public body has jurisdiction; and 2) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

*\* The public may attend the Special Meeting of the City Council prior to the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Monday, August 10, 2026.*

- Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

## OFFICIAL NOTICE - PUBLIC HEARING

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND  
CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION NO. 2134  
LANHAM BOYS CLUB

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of Greenbelt, Maryland, a municipal corporation, has initiated legislative action to annex into the corporate limits of the City of Greenbelt lands contiguous and adjoining to the city's existing corporate boundaries, as described below:

A Charter Amendment Resolution of the City Council of Greenbelt Enlarging the Corporate Boundaries of the City of Greenbelt By Annexing Into The Corporate Limits of the City of Greenbelt Lands Contiguous and Adjoining to the City's Existing Corporate Boundaries Property Commonly Known As Lanham Boys Club, Consisting Of Approximately 10 +/- Acres of Land In Total Located Generally at the Lanham Boys Club.

The annexation resolution was initiated by the City Council pursuant to Maryland Code Annotated, Local Government Article, § 4-403.

The exact legal description and annexation plan for the above Annexation Area are available online at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/news](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/news), or may be reviewed in person at the City of Greenbelt Department of Planning and Community Development, 15 Crescent Road, Suite 200, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The City Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed annexation on **September 14, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.**, in the Council Room at the Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770. Public testimony will be received by the City Council at the hearing.

Written comments may be presented at the public hearing or submitted in advance to the City Clerk, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770.

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, immediately following the Work Session – Administrative Session/Legislative Priorities, in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building and virtually via Zoom:1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to discuss the City Manager's Evaluation.

*\* The public may attend the Special Meeting of the City Council prior to the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Wednesday, August 12, 2026.*

- Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

## GREENBELT CARES PROGRAMS

### BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH FAIR

**Tuesday, August 18, 10 am - 1 pm**  
*Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane*

Meet organizations devoted to strengthening community connections - providing resources about health insurance, mental health services, and city educational programming. Free full health screenings (blood pressure, glucose, cholesterol, A1C), vision + hearing screenings, dental screenings, fun activities and more!

### BILINGUAL PRE-K STORY HOUR HORA DE CUENTOS DE PREKINDER

**Friday, August 14 | 10:30 - 11:30 am**  
*Springhill Lake Recreation, 6101 Cherrywood Lane*  
Join us on the second Friday of every month!

#### Children Ages 0-5

Come and enjoy the wonderful work of storytelling and free health snacks. Friends & family are all welcome to attend.

#### Niños de 0-5 años

Ven y disfruta del maravilloso mundo de contar cuentos y bocadillos saludables port gratis. ¡Amigos y familiares bienvenidos!

This series is sponsored by RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness); Prince George's County Memorial Library System; Greenbelt Recreation, American Legion Auxillary, and Greenbelt COOP.

Contact [joseph.vincent@gpcmls.info](mailto:joseph.vincent@gpcmls.info) or [spreadruak@gmail.com](mailto:spreadruak@gmail.com).



## GREENBELT WELCOME KITS!

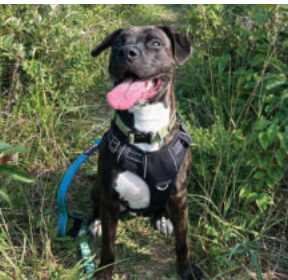
### Material Drop-Off

We're looking for materials to add to the City's Welcome Kits for new residents and visitors. Please dropoff at the Municipal Building to

James Wisniewski  
25 Crescent Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20770

**NO LATER THAN 4 PM ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 21**

## FEATURED PETS BLU



Ready for Adoption?

**Call (301) 474-6124**

11-month-old Blu was surrendered to the shelter back in March when his owner could no longer care for him. When he's not smothering you in affection, Blu loves to play with toys, go on walks, and learn new tricks. No puppy should have to grow up in the shelter – let's find Blu a home before his 1st birthday!

If you're interested in adopting bright-eyed Blu, please email [animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov) or call 301-474-6124 for more information.

## GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar).



## \* VOLUNTEER \* VACANCIES \* APPLY FOR A COMMITTEE OR BOARD TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Committee on Trees, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Appeals, Community Relations Advisory Board, Employee Relations Board, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

## ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts) for more information and many other opportunities!

Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx)

### Creative Kids Camp Performs

**Hercules and Hippolyta** 8/7, 10am & 2:15pm (Greenbelt Community Center.) A musical adventure about history's first super-heroes! Written and directed by Chris Cherry, Greenbelt Recreations' performing arts coordinator. Ticket information below.

### Circus Camp Presents

**Under the Big Top** 8/7, 1pm (Greenbelt Community Center.) Campers present a showcase of their circus skills, including juggling, stilt walking, unicycle, tightrope, tumbling, clown gags, and more! Ticket information below. Additional performance on 8/14.

Both camp shows are FREE, but tickets are required. Visit the Greenbelt Community Center business office or call (301) 397-2208. Seating is limited.

## MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- **August Artful Afternoon** 8/9, 1:30-2:30pm (Springhill Lake Recreation Center.) Sign up at: [sugeni.us/eylm](http://sugeni.us/eylm)
- **August Art Share** 8/16, 2-3pm (Community Center.) Sign up at: [sugeni.us/eE4l](http://sugeni.us/eE4l)

Registration required for these activities, see [www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/activityguide) for details

- **Make & Take Ceramics: Magical Miniatures** 8/9 - 8/16; 1-2:30pm (pg 23)

## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

In the City of Greenbelt, we remain committed to embracing and celebrating the diversity of all. As our nation undergoes change, feelings of pride, uncertainty, and even fear may arise. Yet, we stand firm in the pledge that has defined Greenbelt since its inception and will not falter.

Learn more at <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/know-your-rights-immigration-resources>.

Follow the City of Greenbelt on Facebook and Twitter @cityofgreenbelt! For City information and events, visit [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov)

BALLOT continued from page 1

However, the majority of ballots were mailed even later, on June 19, over two weeks after the required deadline. In addition, though the statute specifies a specimen ballot be mailed to all eligible voters, the mailing went only to in-person voters, not those who requested mail-in ballots.

Why Specimen Ballots Matter

The specimen ballots contain information about the upcoming election, when it is, where to vote and the candidates in every race, of which there were many. In Prince George’s County, a staunchly Democratic county, the primary, in effect, is the deciding election for many positions, including county council seats.

A copy of an official ballot was available online but included all races for the county, from which residents needed to find which applied to them within the 2,104 page document.

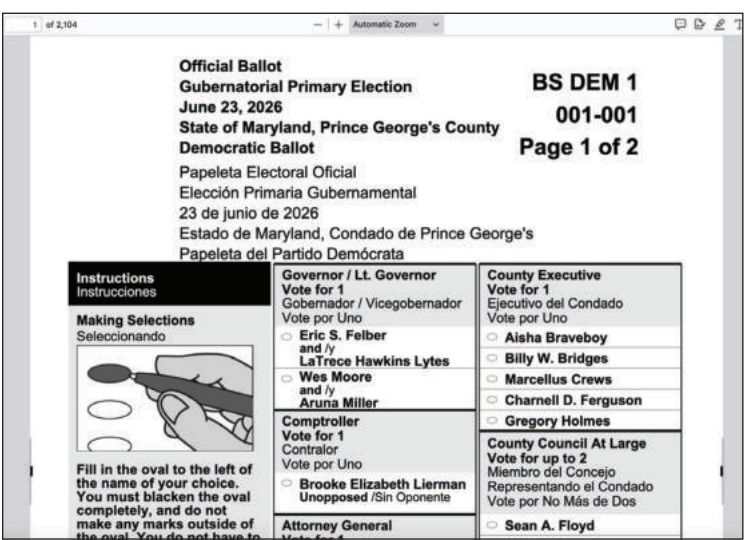
Meanwhile, so-called sample ballots prepared by campaigns, with select information about who was running and suggested slates to vote for, were sent to households in abundance. Without impartial, official information, incumbents and the best-funded candidates had an advantage.

Craig Hayes, a Democratic candidate for Maryland House of Delegates, District 22, told the News Review that voters were clearly less informed than usual for this primary election. “It became apparent around the beginning of early voting that more voters were less informed than usual. Voter confusion was a defining theme in our team’s outreach notes from door knocking, phone calls and texts,” Hayes told the News Review.

Greenbelt resident Angela Oddone expressed concern about the impact on lesser known or unknown candidates. “Nobody knew anything about the people who were publicly funded,” she told the News Review. “They didn’t have the name or the facial recognition. There’s only so much canvassing they can do. It’s a big county.” Oddone lamented that a lot of people are uninformed, suggesting that some residents just trying to keep their head above water aren’t able to look up candidates and didn’t even know who to look up. Many people don’t have local news any longer, Oddone noted. “We’re very lucky [in Greenbelt] to have local, independent news.” Oddone believes there needs to be an investigation.

“The specimen ballot delay absolutely affected all of our campaigns’ abilities to communicate effectively with voters,” said Hayes. “In our siloed information environment, people still rely on mail for official communication from their government, and many voters use the specimen ballot to research candidates and ballot questions before making their decisions.” “Mailers are expensive, people are reluctant to answer their phones and door knocking is physically demanding and time-consuming. These dynamics favor slates, incumbents, establishment-backed and corporate-backed candidates who can fill (or have SuperPACs fill) people’s mailboxes and bombard us with ads,” noted Hayes.

Jeana Jacobs, who was in a tight race for a County Council At-Large position, agreed. “Errors as significant as what was experienced this election cycle created confusion for voters such that



A 2026 gubernatorial primary election online specimen ballot for Prince George’s County was 2,104 pages long. Personalized specimen ballots arrived in Greenbelt after the primary election was over.

it could lead one reasonably to wonder about the election results of a county-wide candidacy such as mine when the difference between me and the candidate who officially won was 0.33 percent or 730 votes,” Jacobs told the News Review. In that race, Sydney Harrison, a term-limited outgoing councilmember for District 9, with name recognition after eight years on council, won an at-large seat with just 0.33 percent more of the vote than Jacobs. “Listen, elections are won and lost, I get that and I will serve nonetheless, but voters must be able to trust that their vote matters and that the process is tried and tested to protect the integrity of the election process,” said Jacobs.

Voter Turnout Numbers

The Board of Elections’ FY 26 Proposed Operating Budget projected 250,000 voters in the primary, nearly twice as many as actually cast accepted ballots.

This primary had 129,060 accepted ballots, representing 24.54 percent of eligible voters. Total votes cast were 132,673 (which would suggest voter turnout at 25.23 percent), but over 10,000 of those were provisional ballots, of which over 30 percent were ultimately rejected, according to

the Maryland State Board of Elections. The number of provisional ballots cast in Prince George’s County during the primary – 10,258 – was the highest in at least three election cycles, despite lower overall turnout than both the 2024 presidential primary (6,922 provisional ballots) and the 2022 gubernatorial primary (8,703 provisional ballots.)

The News Review asked the county’s Elections Administrator Wendy Honesty-Bey, Board of Elections President Beatrice Tignor and Board Counsel Arthur Horne, as well as several candidates in the recent election, if they believed the Board of Elections’ failure to meet the statutory mailing deadline had any effect on voter participation or the outcome of races in this primary.

“No, the Board does not believe this was a contributing factor to actual turnouts,” Honesty-Bey told the News Review.

Jacobs thought otherwise. “Mistakes happen but sending wrong ballots, sending [specimen] ballots late, all contributes to voter despair and likely low turnout,” Jacobs told the News Review. Hayes said, “Just looking at voter turnout numbers, you can tell voter participation was

affected.” Hayes told the News Review that the mistake with the mail-in ballots from the State Board of Elections further complicated the situation. “I spoke with voters in the three days leading up to June 23 who still had not received their second replacement mail-in ballot and were unsure if they could vote on Election Day instead, unaware of the provisional ballot rules,” says Hayes. “By extension, the decreased turnout may have affected the outcome of races in this primary by benefiting incumbent and establishment-backed candidates over challenger and insurgent candidates. With the absence of specimen ballots, candidate-sponsored ‘official’ sample ballots were especially abundant this year and readily filled that vacuum of information. Of course, many of those ‘official’ sample ballots excluded non-preferred candidates,” Hayes told the News Review.

At a meeting of the Prince George’s County House Delegation and the County Board of Elections on Monday, August 3, Delegate Deni Taveras said she would attribute low voter turnout in her district, 47B, to not receiving specimen ballots until after the election. “People in my district feel highly disenfranchised with what occurred in this particular election,” said Taveras.

No Alternative Invoked

According to the statute, a board of elections that does not mail specimen ballots to registered voters at least a week before early voting “shall give notice of the election by newspaper pub-

lication or other means of mass communication.” However, the Prince George’s County Board of Elections did not invoke the alternative-notice provision under Maryland Election Law as a substitute for or supplement to the physical mailing. “Although the Board runs election ads across multiple radio stations, radio advertising cannot serve as an alternative notice because it lacks the full, legally required components of a specimen ballot,” Honesty-Bey told the News Review.

On Monday, Delegate Nicole Williams pressed the board on why they didn’t invoke a substitute when they knew the specimen ballots were going to be late. Honesty-Bey replied that there was so much on the ballot she didn’t believe it could be done by mass media or radio ad. “Is there a contingency plan in place with the local board ... if it appears that the sample ballot is going to go out late?” asked Williams. “In the election law article it also allows for the local board to distribute by publication or dissemination by mass communication during the calendar week preceding the election. So, my question is, is there a contingency in place that meets the requirements of 8-102 A2 of the election law article code for that mass communication?” said Williams. “No,” responded Honesty-Bey.



Rotary

Club of Greenbelt

A Conversation with Greenbelt's

Oustanding Citizens

Hear their thoughts on contributing to Greenbelt.

Thursday, August 13 at 7 pm

Starting with refreshments at 6:30 pm

Community Center Room 114

Monthly Speaker Series - 2nd Thursday of the month - greenbeltrotary.org

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✓ Companion services

✓ Assistance with transportation

✓ Podiatrist on site visit

PUBLIC POLICY VOLUNTEERS

The University of Maryland's Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy, in partnership with the State of Maryland, is looking for volunteers age 50+ to serve as volunteer legislative leaders during the 2026-2027 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly.

The twelve-week classroom training (two days per week) begins on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, and ends on Wednesday, December 2, 2026.

Classes will be held at the University of Maryland Extension, 8930 Stanford Blvd, Suite 25, Columbia, Md., 21045. The volunteer assignment will be in the legislative offices of members of the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis.

Participants will serve a minimum of two (2) days per week starting Wednesday, January 13, 2027, and ending Monday, April 12, 2027.

For more information or for an application, contact Wesley Queen at [wqueen@umd.edu](mailto:wqueen@umd.edu).

# ERHS Grad Tramell Tillman Stars in New Spider-Man Movie

by Charlotte Ormond

If you catch Spider-Man: Brand New Day in theaters, keep an eye out for a familiar face. Prince George's County native Tramell Tillman is featured in the highly anticipated film as bureaucrat William "Bill" Metzger, bringing a local connection to the latest chapter of the superhero franchise. Tillman shares the screen with major stars in the film, such as Tom Holland, Zendaya, Mark Ruffalo and Sadie Sink. Greenbelters can see Tillman on screen at Greenbelt Cinema this week and next.

"It's a dream to be part of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU)," Tillman said in an interview with TheWrap. "When I got the call, I nearly jumped out of my skin because it didn't feel real."

Tillman was born in Washington, D.C., in 1985, grew up in Largo and attended Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) here in Greenbelt (for more see the May 8, 2025, and September 17, 2025 issues). He graduated from ERHS in 2003, attended Xavier University of Louisiana and later transferred to Jackson State University, where he earned a degree in mass communications. In an interview with Variety, Tillman described the kind of student he was growing up:

"I was very studious. It was very important for us to be excellent in everything we did, including academics — especially academics," he said.

Tillman had his first acting experience at 10 years old, when his mother convinced him to join her in a Christmas play at their church. "I didn't want to do it," he told The Cut in an interview. "I'm pretty sure I cried backstage before going on because I was so shy. I didn't like attention. I'm still kind of that way."

When he decided to pursue acting, he enrolled in an MFA program with the University of Tennessee's theater department, where he was the first Black man to graduate from the program.

His role in the new Spider-Man movie is not his first experience in the spotlight. He rose to fame for his performance as Seth Milchick in the hit show Severance. For this role, he won a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series, becoming the first openly gay Black man to do so, marking yet another trailblazing achievement.



Users on Reddit and Instagram shared this photo from the ERHS yearbook showing Tillman, right, in marching band uniform.

Tillman ended up thanking his mother for pushing him to pursue acting in his Emmy acceptance speech.

In a Variety interview, Noah Greenshner, executive vice president of development and production at Fifth Season, the production company behind Severance, called Tillman's portrayal one of the show's most powerful performances.

"Tramell brings so much subtle humor and menace," Greenshner said. "He's able to play the depth of this character and make you laugh while making you afraid."

Tillman is also well known for his performance in Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning, starring opposite Tom Cruise, which had its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival in 2025.

As Tillman continues to take on major roles in film and television, his success remains a point of local pride for the Greenbelt and ERHS community. For more about Tramell Tillman's career, visit IMDb at [imdb.com/name/nm7436993](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm7436993).

Charlotte Ormond is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the Greenbelt News Review.

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LILLY ELECTRIC

# Hundreds of Books Donated To GES Labor Day Book Sale

by Terence Clegg



Cordell Black (center) and Terence Clegg (right) with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. brothers

When Cordell Black — a former professor of French literature and assistant provost at the University of Maryland — decided to move from his New Carrollton residence to Detroit, he wanted to donate his extensive personal library, which he had amassed over many years. The collection spans a wide variety of subjects, including French literature, African American biographies, religious books and novels. Black reached out to the Kappa Epsilon Lambda chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., for assistance. With only about a week to clear out the house and no storage space, the brothers immediately jumped into action. First, they reached out to New Carrollton Mayor Phelicia Nemhard and delivered approximately four boxes of books to the city to be distributed to local community members. Next, they organized all of the French literature books to be donated to the Dora Kennedy French Immersion school via a member of their PTA. Finally, my son Bobby and I successfully delivered the remaining hun-

Donate to the Labor Day Book Sale

The Labor Day book sale is Greenbelt Elementary School PTA's biggest fundraiser of the year. For those wishing to donate books, upcoming collections will take place on August 15 and August 29 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church.

dreds of books to the upcoming Greenbelt Elementary School PTA Labor Day Book Sale. Everyone involved is excited that Dr. Black's collection will serve as great reading material for Greenbelt residents while simultaneously raising vital funds for the Greenbelt Elementary PTA. In an era where federal policies are challenging our history — particularly Black history — I am especially proud of this opportunity to preserve these precious works of literature and keep them within our Greenbelt community for years to come.

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# Boxwood Village Scholarship Winner

Congratulations to Kira Moore on her selection as the 2026 Boxwood Village Civic Association Scholarship recipient. Kira, of Lastner Lane, is a 2026 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School. She is going to be a freshman at the University of Maryland in College Park, enrolled in the undergraduate guaranteed nursing pathway, as she wishes to work in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

The Boxwood Village Scholarship Committee members were greatly impressed by Kira's outstanding academic credentials, varied extracurricular activities and active volunteer record with Greenbelt organizations. She was awarded \$500 by Boxwood Village.

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MAYOR continued from page 1

and was seen as a threat that would overwhelm traffic and be incompatible with surrounding neighborhoods. Weidenfeld publicly opposed the project during council discussions and supported efforts to downzone the property.

“The success of modern Greenbelt has a lot to do with his political leadership,” Renahan said.

Parris Glendening, former Maryland governor and former Prince George’s county executive, worked closely with Weidenfeld and said he witnessed firsthand Weidenfeld’s dedication to public service.

“He was a good guy, a fun guy and sort of a natural leader,” he said.



Gil Weidenfeld, right, with Mayor Emmett Jordan

When funding concerns threatened to stop the Metro’s Green Line short of Greenbelt, Glendening and Weidenfeld worked together to ensure the line was extended to the city.

Glendening said he and Weidenfeld, along with former Gov. Harry Hughes and Congressman Steny Hoyer, pressured the state to include Greenbelt on the Green Line and were successful. Glendening recalled Weidenfeld’s professionalism in meetings with members of Congress when negotiating for that project.

“His normal, somewhat cheerful, somewhat outgoing type personality dropped a level or two to kind of a stern professionalism, and I think it was exactly what was called for, for that kind of meeting,” Glendening said. “That was, for Gil, a tremendous victory.”

Glendening shared a common sentiment about Weidenfeld: he was open to hearing different opinions and genuinely cared about the people he served. “[He] was one of those municipal officials that loved their municipality, loved their job and did not see it automatically as a stepping stone to higher office,” he said.

As a former county council member and county executive, Glendening recalled riding alongside Weidenfeld during the Labor Day parades during Weidenfeld’s years as mayor. He remembered the atmosphere of the holiday and the “general enthusiasm and almost spontaneous expressions of affection for [Weidenfeld].”

Richard Castaldi, also a former Greenbelt mayor and councilmember, first met Weidenfeld when he was just getting started on city council and Weidenfeld was mayor. Castaldi said that when he first joined the city council, he knew little about how city government worked and learned much of what he knew about leadership by observing Weidenfeld. “I just basically sat there and watched him,” Castaldi said. “I was like a sponge and soaked up a lot of great information from him and how he did things in the city.”

According to Castaldi, one quality Weidenfeld demonstrated well was being a good listener and keeping an open mind when considering other perspectives. He said that Weidenfeld understood that he was a representative of all people, even those who did not

vote for him. Even when the two had differing opinions, they found a way to compromise and have respect for one another.

“Maybe we would disagree, but not be disagreeable,” he said. “When you think about politics today, which is quite frankly terrible, I really almost harken back to the times when we were on the council.”

Castaldi credited Weidenfeld with helping organize the Greenbelt Democratic Coordinating Committee, which brought local groups together and helped the city gain greater representation in county and state government. He said Weidenfeld was instrumental in helping give Greenbelt more of a voice.

Castaldi and Weidenfeld went on to become not only professional colleagues but also close personal friends, with Weidenfeld later serving as Castaldi’s best man at his wedding.

Castaldi said he hopes Weidenfeld’s legacy encourages current and future Greenbelt residents to feel comfortable speaking with local officials and sharing their concerns and opinions, “because he always listened,” Castaldi said.

*Charlotte Ormond is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism interning with the Greenbelt News Review.*

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Public Service Commission Limits Natural Gas Price Hike

The Maryland Public Service Commission has authorized a rate increase of approximately \$38.1 million for Washington Gas & Light Company (WG&L), less than half the \$82.5 million requested by the utility in its original filing (Case No. 9849) on December 29, 2025.

The Commission’s decision reflects an adjusted rate base of \$1.645 million and an approved overall rate of return of 7.22 percent based on a return on equity (ROE) of 9.4 percent, which has been reduced from WG&L’s current ROE of 9.5 percent and which is significantly below the Company’s requested 10.85 percent ROE. For the average resi-

dential heating customer, this adjustment is estimated to result in an increase of approximately \$4.01 per month. The new rates went into effect July 28.

The Commission’s decision follows a comprehensive review of evidence, including testimony from WG&L, Commission Technical Staff, the Office of People’s Counsel and other stakeholders, to ensure rates remain “just and reasonable” as required by the Public Utilities Article.

**Hearings and Evidence**

The Commission’s decision also follows extensive public hearings and evidentiary proceedings

See GAS, page 11

## Obituaries from p.4

of service, generosity, loyalty and love. He believed in showing up for others, lending a hand whenever it was needed and making his family and community stronger because he was part of them. His kindness, wisdom, humor and steadfast presence will be deeply missed but forever remembered by all whose lives he touched.

Greg was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Kathleen Gigliotti; his parents, Vincent and Rita Gigliotti; and other loved ones who welcomed him home.

He is lovingly survived by his children Anthony (Sarah) and Jake (Lindsey) and Craig May; siblings Vinny Gigliotti (Joan) and Steve Gigliotti; grandchildren Ryan May, Joshua May, Andrew Gigliotti, Owen Gigliotti, Anthony Gigliotti, Emilia Gigliotti and Gianna Gigliotti; nephews Gabriel Gigliotti and Nicholas Gigliotti; niece Sophia Dippel; along with many extended family members.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made in Greg’s memory to Greenbelt American Legion Post 136, Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department or to a veterans or lung cancer charity of the donor’s choice.

- Lindsey Gigliotti



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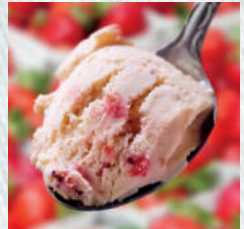
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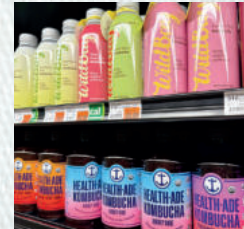
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# Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred July 27 to August 2, 2026. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email [pd@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:pd@greenbeltmd.gov). Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

**Incident Summary**  
Greenbelt Police reported three domestic incidents and one mental health diversion.

**Fighting and Disorderly Conduct Arrests**  
On July 30 at 11:34 a.m. near 11 Crescent Road, two women were arrested for assaulting another woman at the library.

On July 31 at 12:16 a.m. near 5919 Cherrywood Terrace, officers responded to a call of an altercation between two men. One man was extremely intoxicated and had an altercation with a family member, yelling and screaming, and did not comply with attempts by officers and his family to calm him down. He was arrested for causing a public disturbance.

**DUI Arrests**  
On July 31 at 7:59 p.m. near 6003 Cherrywood Court, a driver struck multiple unoccupied parked vehicles. He was slurring his words, and officers smelled alcohol on his breath. After sobriety testing, he was arrested and charged with DUI.

On August 1 at 12:24 a.m. near Kenilworth Avenue and the Beltway, officers saw a vehicle strike the curb and swerve, nearly striking the barrier wall. The driver displayed signs of impairment and was arrested for DUI.

**Fraud**  
On July 28 near 7706 Hanover Parkway, fraudulent charges appeared on someone's credit cards.

**Theft and Shoplifting**  
On July 28 at 5:34 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a juvenile stole merchandise by placing items in a backpack and exiting the store. The juvenile was de-

tained and all merchandise was recovered.

On July 28 at 9:12 a.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a store employee reported a theft.

On July 29 at 1:36 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a store employee reported a theft; the suspect left but was identified from previous encounters; officers will apply for charges.

On August 2 at 3:15 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man was stopped by loss prevention staff for stealing merchandise and was banned.

## Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

On July 28 near 9127 Edmonston Terrace, a 2017 Mercedes Benz GLS was stolen, and on July 29 near 9148 Edmonston Road, a 2018 Subaru (Md: 8GD9134) was stolen.

**Stolen Vehicles Recovered**  
On July 27 near 5 Court Gardenway, a vehicle was found unoccupied and illegally parked in the dead-end cul-de-sac; stolen from Temple Hills, the vehicle was tracked to the address.

On July 28 at 1:26 a.m. near 9154 Springhill Court, an officer saw a dark Charger and a white Chrysler Pacifica van stopped in the roadway next to a 2015 Dodge Challenger with a broken sunroof and damaged hood. When the officer turned around, the Charger and the Pacifica took off.

On July 28 at 3:05 a.m. near Lakecrest Drive and Lakeview Circle, an officer observed a 2018 Ford Explorer driving in an unsafe manner and committing multiple traffic violations. When the

officer caught up to the truck, it was stopped in the roadway with a boy next to the vehicle. His guardian reported that the son had taken the vehicle without permission. He was arrested, and the parent took the vehicle back.

On July 29 near 9294 Edmonston Road, a 2012 Infiniti G37x was found; it had been reported stolen to Prince George's County Police.

On August 2 at 10:57 a.m. near 131 Westway, a citizen called to report a 2019 Dodge Durango parked in front of the dumpsters with damage to all the windows. Officers contacted the owner, who said he had left his key inside the vehicle by mistake.

**Theft From Auto**  
On July 27, airbags were stolen from two 2018 Honda Civics, one near 7806 Hanover Parkway, and one near 7805 Mandan Road.

Tags were stolen from six vehicles: on July 27 near 9115 Springhill Lane, (Va: SYS5511); on July 28 near 9158 Springhill Court, from a 2023 Honda Odyssey (Md: 1FH7044), rear; on July 29 near 7700 Ora Glen Drive, from a 2023 Chevrolet Equinox (Va: SXE8296), rear; on July 30 near 5915 Cherrywood Lane, from a 2012 Chevrolet (Md: 9HC8427), front; and near 6001 Cherrywood Court (Md: 3CB9974), front; and on July 31 near 6206 Breezewood Drive, from a 2000 Chevrolet Tahoe (Va: TWT6181).

**Vandalism to Auto**  
On July 29 near 6928 Hanover Parkway, a vehicle was scratched and its tires were slashed.

On July 30 near 7730 Hanover Parkway, a 2014 Nissan Altima was broken into but nothing was taken.

On August 1 near 5821 Cherrywood Lane, a vehicle was vandalized by smashing the windows.

# Two Arrested for Shooting Youth on Hanover Parkway

The Greenbelt Police Criminal Investigations Unit has arrested two people in connection with a shooting that occurred on May 11 in the 7300 block of Hanover Parkway.

## The May Shooting

On May 11 at 5:46 a.m., officers found a male youth who had been shot in the parking lot. They provided critical medical assistance to the youth, who was then transported to the hospital. He has since been released.

## July Arrests

On July 8, Greenbelt police arrested Willian Reyes-Ramos, with assistance from the Prince

George's County Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division. Two days later, on July 10, a male youth was also arrested and is being charged as an adult for his involvement in the shooting. His name was not released due to his age.

Reyes-Ramos is facing charges of attempted first-degree murder, first-degree assault and the use of a firearm in the commission of a violent felony. The juvenile is also facing attempted second-degree murder charges, first-degree assault and the use of a firearm in a felonious crime, along with other gun-related charges.

# Group Seen Fleeing Latest In String of Shootings

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

For the third time in under four weeks, gunfire was reported in the Franklin Park neighborhood again last week, followed by witness accounts of a group running from the area.

## July 27 Incident

Shortly after 5 p.m. on Monday, July 27, police received calls from people who reported hearing several gunshots in the area of 6100 Breezewood Court. Witnesses said they saw a group of four to six men wearing ski masks flee the area. One of the men was reported to have a firearm. Bullet casing evidence was found in the area, as were significant findings on surrounding surveillance equipment.

## July 14 Incident

As we reported in the July 23 issue, around 10 p.m. on Tuesday, July 14, there were reports of gunfire on the 9000 block of Breezewood Terrace and a group of individuals subsequently seen running from the area on that occasion.

## July 8 Incident

A week earlier, on July 8, at approximately 2 p.m. around the 9300 block of Edmonston Road there was reportedly gunfire and three male juveniles were seen running from the area.

There have been no reported injuries from any of these three incidents.

Greenbelt Police Department's Public Information Officer Ricardo Dennis was unable to confirm whether or not the three shooting events were connected. The Police Department does track similarities and patterns in events and is working to prevent further similar incidents from occurring, said Dennis. He could not release more information because detectives are actively investigating.

Anyone with information can call the Greenbelt police department at 301-474-7200. Information can be provided anonymously.



# Police Blotter at Vacation Libraries

by Melissa Sites

This year for our vacation we took a road trip through Ohio and Michigan. We stopped in friendly public libraries along our route to charge our devices, check our email – and process the Police Blotter (which I do weekly) for the News Review!

On Monday, July 6, we were in Ohio learning about the Hopewell culture and went to the Chillicothe Public Library on Buckeye Street. On Monday, July 13, we were visiting Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and dropped in on the Glen Lake Community Library in Empire, Michigan. On Monday, July 20, while making our way home, we stopped at the Columbiana, Ohio, Public Library.

All these libraries welcomed



PHOTO BY IAN BLACKWELL ROGERS

On vacation, here at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore near Lake Superior in Michigan, News Review writer Melissa Sites enjoys luxurious accommodations, while public libraries generously provide access to wifi and electricity.

us and offered tables where we could sit and outlets so that we could charge our cell phones and computers. I am grateful for public libraries and the gracious librarians who made it easy and comfortable to turn in the blotter each week during our vacation!



## PRELIMINARY AGENDA Meetings of the GHI Board of Directors on August 13, 2026

### GHI Closed Meeting – starts at 7:00 p.m. - closed to members and visitors

- a) Approve Minutes of the GHI Closed Meeting Held on June 11, 2026
- b) Financial Matters
- c) Member Matters
- d) Contract Matters

### GHI Open Meeting – starts after GHI Closed Meeting - open to members and visitors

- a) Approve Minutes of the GHI Open Meeting Held on June 11, 2026
- b) Statements of Closed Meetings Held on July 16, 2026, July 30, 2026, and August 13, 2026
- c) Committee Reports – Bicycle, Member Engagement, Sustainability
- d) Exception to Have a Privacy Fence on the Service Side of Home
- e) Confirm ARC Work Session Date
- f) Member Handbook Amendment Task Force Charter
- g) Yardi Task Force Presentation
- h) Review 2nd Quarter Financial Statements
- i) Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on September 3, 2026

### GDC Open Meeting – starts after GHI Open Meeting - open to members and visitors

- a) Approve Minutes of the GHI Open Meeting Held on November 20, 2025
- b) Review 2nd Quarter Financial Statements

### GDC Closed Meeting – starts after GDC Open Meeting – closed to members and visitors

- a) Approve Minutes of the GHI Open Meeting Held on October 2, 2025
- b) Legal Matters

Members and visitors who wish to attend the Open meetings must register in advance via the following link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtd-uqzoiG9XHGq9rswP\\_N9LZj33gbi9r](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtd-uqzoiG9XHGq9rswP_N9LZj33gbi9r)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



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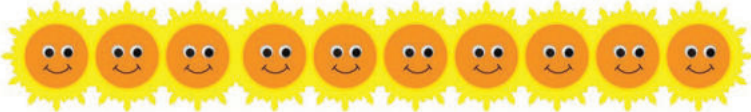
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the future economy of the county as a whole. It was his desire, he said, to see Greenbelt as a true Business-to-Business (B2B) hub with strong connections among the participants.

Procurement Training

With the B2B emphasis, Washington elaborated that it is important to make it easier for local businesses to learn how to connect with procurement opportunities and utilize the resources available to learn how to respond to solicitations.

He spoke of the need for training and improved support from local government, referring again to the difficulties of navigating DPIE’s legendary constraints. He noted the upfront investment required that made it difficult to sustain a small business in the time before the effort paid off and “the money began to flow.”

Workforce Resources

Washington also referred to the provision of workforce resources. He spoke of the need for training for the jobs that are actually coming to the area and praised emerging community college programs. It was his belief that the relevant workforce isn’t here now and thus there is a need to increase county programs to provide it.

Metrics of Success

Greenbelt resident and businessperson Pragati Godbole asked how local government measures the success of its efforts to grow business in the city. Salmerón answered that they were measuring participation and business feedback from their activities.

B2B in Action

In the nearby conference room, about 20 small businesses (including the News Review) had set up tables with samples or literature about their offerings. A steady stream of participants came by to enquire. Two breakout sessions also presented options to attendees.

What is DPIE?

DPIE is the Prince George’s County Department of Permits, Inspections and Enforcement, which continues to be a major roadblock for businesses. They issue building and use/occupancy permits and such a role is certainly imperative for safety. Compared to other local jurisdictions, however, for years their approach has been a target of criticism for creating expense and delay. Some contractors won’t work in Prince George’s because of them.

In Greenbelt, for example, the Farmers Market needs a Use and Occupancy permit from DPIE annually and it’s always an anxious time. On opening day 2019, the assigned inspector watched as vehicles parked by their tents. Only when the market was ready to open, did he declare (incorrectly) that all vehicles must be removed because they weren’t shown on the submitted layout. (See the May 30, 2019 issue).



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City Notes

The City Manager, Public Works, Public Information and State of Maryland colleagues met about algae bloom issues in Greenbelt Lake. Constituent Services and Public Safety/Community attended the Green Ridge House Crab Feast and Economic Development networked at the Greenbelt Business Alliance meeting.

Code Enforcement inspected Lakeside North Apartments, Greenbelt Nursery School, one commercial suite, six complaints and 31 rentals.

Animal Shelter residents are four cats, eight kittens and a dog.

A Public Works/Recycling electronics recycling event served 215 participants. Facilities Maintenance painted police station locker rooms and, at the Cinema, installed infrastructure for popcorn and coffee machines. Mechanics received an electric truck and a bucket truck.

Community Center, Recreation and Arts staff began session four of summer camps. A power outage closed the Aquatic and Fitness Center for two days. Therapeutic Recreation hosted a Tech Café for seniors and Rangers taught beginning kayaking skills to 25 participants.

CARES welcomed eight participants for an LGBT+ hangout event.

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held throughout the spring of 2026. The Commission emphasized its commitment to protecting consumers while ensuring the financial integrity of the utility to continue to provide safe and reliable natural gas service to approximately 518,000 customers in Calvert, Charles, Frederick, Montgomery, Prince George’s and St. Mary’s counties.

The full order, including detailed findings on capital structure, cost of service, and rate design, is available through the Maryland Public Service Commission’s official docket at psc.maryland.gov

*This story was based on a press release from the Maryland Public Service Commission.*

Bibliophiles Meet August 12

The Bibliophiles of Greenbelt will meet at the New Deal Café on Wednesday, August 12 from 11 a.m. to noon. They meet on the second Wednesday of every month. The topic for this meeting will be The USA@250. This month the group will read and discuss The Living Declaration by Ted Widmer. For more information, email Van Caldwell at wvcaldwell@gmail.com

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KIDS continued from page 1

Early Printing

All groups got a short introduction to the newspaper, then the younger groups used stamp blocks to see how graphics were incorporated in the newspaper before digital printing. Of course, they all knew from nursery school how to make hand prints and it is fortunate that the News Review has a sink in its office, even if volunteer Johns had to devise a step so they could reach it.

Stories to Go

The three younger groups of campers worked with camp counselors and the volunteers to fill in the blanks on a pre-printed page about camp, set up like a tiny newspaper with the same but smaller masthead used on the front page of this issue. Older campers wrote their own digital stories, using the newspaper's computers to fill out an online template. The oldest group showed considerable skill in choosing subjects, searching for suitable graphics and pasting them into their stories. The volunteers were impressed with their ingenuity.

Topics Varied

The stories were individual or small group efforts and each camper group turned out some very competent work in terms of their age range. Stories ranged from invading aliens and love of music through learning to ice skate and what to write when you can't think of anything to write.

Other topics included catching crabs on the Chesapeake Bay, how to plan the perfect vacation and the influence of memes (no kidding). One young man wrote a touching story about his concern for his younger sister who was in the Youth Center, where the power had gone off for some period. He was afraid she would be scared in the dark.

A Lunchtime Story

The campers eat lunch on the lawn between the Community Center and the Greenbelt Library. During this time there was an incident that involved a fight at the Library (not your usual venue for a brawl) and that brought (according to the young eyewitnesses) five police cars to the scene - the boys were most precise about this. The groups after lunch were clearly using their stories to process what they had so unfortunately seen. Luckily, it's not every newspaper camp session that includes a real crime to report.

Searching

All ages got the chance to search in the newspaper archive (as readers can, too, by going to the webpage and clicking on Archive). The older campers were impressed that the archive went back so far in time and that the newspaper also has paper copies as far back as the first one in 1937 - our office copy, which was handed round in a protective cover for the campers to see. The November 24, 1937 newspaper comprises a single mimeographed letter-sized sheet, printed on both sides of green paper.

Relevance

Campers were able to find photos of previous years' camps - and some of the current participants were even pictured there in their younger incarnations - causing much merriment. Campers found Fourth of July celebrations, their schools, their sports teams and sometimes their own family or themselves. Everybody learned

that the acronym CKC - Creative Kids Camp - would turn up some good shots of previous camps.

Typewriters Rule

As always, the News Review's typewriters were the star of the show, and some of the campers could barely be pried off them to let others have a turn - the boys seemed particularly enamored of the mechanical complexity. Most campers got to have a try and at least learned how to insert paper and remove it, and what the term "carriage return" really means. Unfortunately, the typewriters are suffering from their age and only

a few of them are really workable to type a story. An overhaul is being considered for the oldest and most compromised.

Everybody Learned Something

The volunteers, who didn't really know going in what would work and what wouldn't, learned a lot - but the overall feeling at the end of the day was one of delight. Each volunteer had stories to tell of amusing sound bites, funny stories, warm collaborations and thoughtful and capable young people who are a credit to their families and their community.

Long live CKC!



PHOTO BY ERICA JOHNS

Creative Kids Campers search the News Review archives for themselves and their friends.



PHOTO BY JERRY BONNELL

Ready-for-anything counselor Kalyansudhan Ganesan helps a camper search the News Review archive.



PHOTO BY JERRY BONNELL

A camper finds their camp, Creative Kids Camp, in the News Review Archive.

Greenbelters Travel



PHOTO COURTESY JACQUELINE LILLY

Jaky Lilly, right, and John McBride at Dollywood in Tennessee



PHOTO BY BRIANNE BOYLAN

Alex, right, and Dmitri Barnes read the News Review atop Mt. Whistler above the town of Jasper, Alberta, Canada. The family enjoyed a cross-Canada train ride.



PHOTO BY JESSICA FINTAK

During a cross-country auto trip, J Davis encouraged a jackalope (Wall Drug, S.D.) and the Obamas (Obama Presidential Center, Chicago, Ill.), to read the Greenbelt News Review.